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BUILDING A LOG-HOUSE.

See page 36.

THE
BACKWOODS BOY

Who became a Minister;

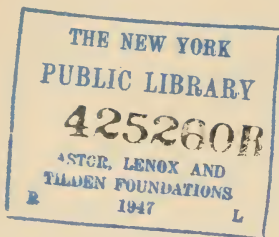
OR, THE FAMILY AND PERSONAL HISTORY OF
HENRY ADOLPH.

22
BY REV. J. H. PITEZEL, ¹⁴
AUTHOR OF "LIGHTS AND SHADES OF MISSIONARY LIFE."

SEVEN ILLUSTRATIONS.

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P R E F A C E .

IN the following pages the writer has aimed to give the youthful reader not a *fiction*, or a *fictitious* story founded in fact. What is here related is *reality*, except in so far as memory may have proved slightly treacherous in reporting early scenes. And here memory was the principal dependence, refreshed by conversation with some of the actors in the scene. Names of persons and places are, in most instances, imaginary.

The brief sketch of the family and personal history of Henry Adolph,

here given, is a history of change, and is made up of cloud and sunshine. It is a comment on the inconstancy of all things earthly, and illustrates the power of Divine grace to give support when earthly hopes are fled. The guiding hand of Providence is also clearly seen in the whole, causing all things to work together for good to them that love God. Hoping that its results may be, as its humble aim has been—to do good, it is now submitted to all such as may chance to look into its pages.

THE AUTHOR.

May 29, 1858.

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THE BACKWOODS BOY.



CHAPTER I.

HENRY'S PARENTAGE AND EARLY LIFE.

MR. and MRS. ADOLPH, the parents of Henry, were natives of Red Valley, in the state of —, about fifty miles from the city of Baltimore. Mr. Adolph was an only son. At the death of his mother, he became heir to what was then considered a valuable estate. Wedded to Miss Mary Otis, a young lady distinguished by beauty of personal appearance, and possessed of many of the



charms of her sex, he launched out on the sea of life with bright hopes and cheering prospects. Not satisfied to live entirely without God in the world, they both united with the Lutheran Church, were catechised, partook of the holy sacrament of the Lord's supper, and attended to other outward observances, in the use of which they thought they were rendering acceptable service to God. But Mrs. Adolph soon became convinced that their religion was one of form, without spirit, life, or power.

Methodist preaching was now established in the neighborhood ; its novelty drew many out to hear, among others Mrs. Adolph. The plain style and forcible manner of the preachers soon made a deep impression on her heart.

Mr. Adolph observed with great uneasiness this anxious concern of his wife. For the Methodists he had no feeling but that of scorn. He thought them to be a very deluded people, and that no greater disgrace could come upon his family than for his wife to unite with them ; hence he strove to draw her away from under this influence by the promise of fine clothes and costly entertainments. He hoped in worldly pleasures and amusements to drown her serious impressions. But she was not to be deluded by such vanities. She told Mr. Adolph that, at all hazards, she must try to save her soul.

Her whole mind became aroused by a sense of her sinfulness. In her midnight dreams, as well as in her waking reflections, the realities of

eternity were before her. At one time she dreamed that the judgment-day had come, and that she saw the rising dead and other scenes of that august exhibition. A heavenly messenger was heard to utter, "She is weighed in the balances and found wanting." In the agitation of her mind she looked up, and the scene was entirely changed! Instead of Christ seated in awful majesty on his throne of judgment, she saw him hanging on the cross. Never did such benignity and love beam in any countenance as in that of her Saviour. The words of the poet rushed into her mind :

"Let Him who raised thee from the dead
Quicken my mortal frame."

A heavenly change seemed to come over her, and she was tranquil and

happy. She awoke, and found it all a dream; but the impression it left did not become effaced.

At length, at her own home, none being present but her husband and two little infant boys, she gave vent to the agony of her mind, and cried aloud to God for mercy. He heard her prayer and came to her relief; and such was the power of God, in breaking the chains of sin, that she shouted forth the praises of her great deliverer. Had all the world been present, she felt that she could not have held her peace.

Mr. Adolph could not withstand the power of God, as seen in his wife's conversion. His prejudices yielded to conviction. He was now willing that his wife should join the Methodists, and even urged her to do so;

but she preferred to wait for him to unite with her.

God has many ways of bringing sinners to repentance. Mr. Adolph was naturally very highminded. To humble his pride and to soften his obdurate heart, God chose to lead him through deep waters of affliction. By a violent disease he was brought near to death's door. For about nine months he was helpless as an infant. With the best medical advice and assistance, he was thought to be past cure, and he looked upon death as at hand. But he felt himself to be wholly unprepared for such a change. On that bed of suffering he promised, that if the Lord would once more raise him up, he would strive in future to serve him. As in the case of Hezekiah, God was pleased to grant

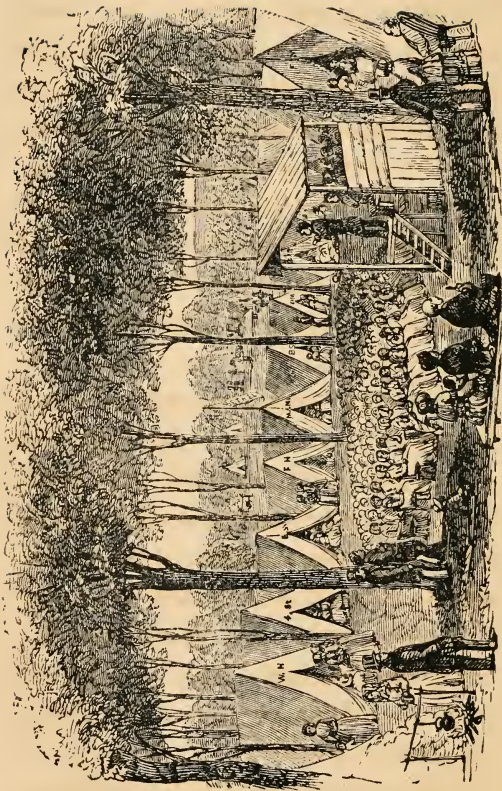
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CAMP-MEETING.

him his request, and he so far recovered as to be enabled to fulfill his vow, though, from some mysterious cause, his constitution was so shattered that he became a cripple for life.

Suffice it to say that, at a camp-meeting soon after, which was one of great power, signalized by many conversions, Mr. Adolph met with a most happy change.

From this time onward his house became a home for the traveling preachers. Such men as R. R. Roberts, (late bishop,) S. G. Roszel, Jacob Gruber, Nicholas Snethen, and many others, often found shelter under his roof. Preaching was established regularly near by, and a class of five members organized, which soon grew to about fifty.

The principal lack of the young so-

ciety was a convenient place for divine worship. Mr. Adolph had on his farm a DISTILLERY ; from this place streams of death had, in former years, issued out in every direction. An infectious moral atmosphere had arisen from this house of death, and settled down over the surrounding country. To undo, as far as possible, the evil of the past, Mr. Adolph thought best to turn the devil's battery against himself. With great readiness the people united to cast out the old swill-tubs, and whisky barrels, and boilers, and finally the venemous still-worm. From top to bottom it underwent a process of purification. It was lathed, plastered, and furnished with seats and a pulpit, from which the pure word of life was often preached. Near the door was a beautiful spring of pure

water to refresh the thirsty; and now, from within, whence streams of death had issued, water from the river of life flowed freely, and thirsty souls were invited to come and drink. God owned the truth as here proclaimed, and the records of eternity only will unfold the good done in the *converted distillery*.

It was in this humble spot that Mr. and Mrs. Adolph laid the foundation of their religious experience, and of their future hope, which cheered them on to their dying day.

Having told you this much about Henry's parents, I must now give you an account of his birth and boyhood.

Henry was born in Red Valley, April 18, 1814. He was the third child of his parents; the first two were girls. So interesting and lovely were these

two little ones, that the hearts of the fond parents were, no doubt, too much set on them, and in their love of the gift they had well nigh lost sight of the Giver. In autumn of 1812, just as the leaves began to drop from the forest trees, the first-born dropped into an untimely grave. Six months, lacking two days, then passed, and the other one followed her little sister.

Though Henry was never permitted to see the faces of his sweet little sisters, he has often seen their infant graves, and indulged the hope that, in the morning of the resurrection, he should see them, when they shall be clothed with the beautiful robes of immortality, and be no more subject to death. For aught he knows, it may not be possible now to tell the

exact spot where they sleep; but there is one who

“Watches all their dust,
Till He shall bid it rise.”

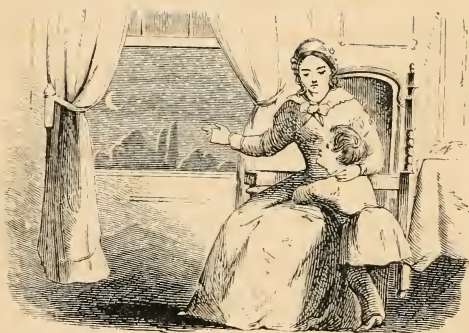
How glorious is the hope which the religion of the blessed Jesus inspires!

Though at a very early age Henry was called to leave the place of his birth, he has ever retained a vivid recollection of the home of his childhood. After many years have fled, he fancies that he can see how the brick house looked in which he was born. He remembers the corn crib and the barn, and the converted distillery, a little farther off. He can call to mind some venerable-looking poplars, and several chestnut trees, where he often gathered chestnuts. And there was the beautiful grove in

which he often played ; and yonder the orchards and the cherry trees ; and in the rear of the house was the clover field, in the centre of which stood a large apple tree, whose fruit was his favorite. Away off in one corner of the farm stood a large black-heart cherry tree, which bore delicious fruit. Then there were patches of raspberries and blackberries. The garden also, near the house, was filled with fruits and flowers. This owed much of its beauty and fruitfulness to the care of his mother. Here was also the bee-house, where the "little busy bees" laid up their precious store. He has not forgotten the spacious yard which surrounded the house, covered with green grass and shaded with locust and fruit trees. In this yard he often erected little

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HENRY AND HIS MOTHER.

pulpits, in imitation of the stands from which the preachers used to preach at camp-meetings. Here he would collect the children and domestics about him, and "make believe" that he was preaching. These and many such scenes have left their clear traces on his memory's page, and have not grown dim in the lapse of years.

Henry's mother took great pains to teach him the fear of the Lord. As soon as he could lisp he was taught, kneeling, with his head on his mother's lap, to pray the Lord's prayer; and before going to bed at night he learned to repeat:

"Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray the Lord my soul to keep,
If I should die before I wake,
I pray the Lord my soul to take."

Often did his mother clasp his tiny hand in hers, and lead him into her closet, where he kneeled by her side, while she prayed, when he did not know the cause why she should weep as she did. He was taught also a form of blessing to ask at table. When he did anything wrong his kind mother would try to show him how wicked he had been in so doing; and sometimes she would send him away to ask God to forgive him. He does not remember to have used profane language except once. For this he was severely chastised with the rod, and never repeated the crime.

Among the earliest influences brought to bear upon Henry's mind were the pious instructions of ministers. They placed in his hands tracts

and little books, and taught him to commit to memory such little hymns as,

“How doth the little busy bee,” etc.

and

“Let dogs delight to bark and bite,” etc.

Among the tracts which deeply impressed his mind at this early age were “The Dairyman’s Daughter” and “The Shepherd of Salisbury Plain.” These and similar works he used to read aloud for his mother while she would knit or sew.

He was early sent to school, and made some advances in knowledge for his years. But schools were not then what they are now, and the privations of after years rendered his earlier lessons at school less salutary. Thus passed swiftly the sunny days of Henry’s early childhood.

CHAPTER II.

REMOVAL TO THE WEST.

A GREAT change had now come over the prospects of Henry's father. Having nearly lost the use of his limbs, and endured violent attacks of disease, with little abatement for years, he had been a great sufferer; and with wasted health his fortune was also gone. His doctor's bills were enough to make a man, in ordinary circumstances, poor. His farm, committed mostly to the care of servants, became impoverished, and did not pay expenses. And, besides, he had never carefully considered the words of Solomon: "He that is surety for a stranger shall smart for it: and

he that hateth suretyship is sure." Had he learned this lesson well, he might have avoided great trouble and suffering. As it was, he became security for others for a large amount, and had it to pay. Meanwhile property, which was once valuable, had depreciated to a mere nominal value. Under the pressure of these afflictions and losses, he found it necessary to dispose of his property, and go somewhere else.

The far West, then called the Backwoods, was much talked about, and was finally fixed upon as his future home. Much of the new country was then an unbroken forest. Mr. Eli Otis, a brother to Henry's mother, owned a fine tract of land in the West, and was to accompany Mr. Adolph and his family. He was in the vigor

of manhood, and had no family to care for.

After closing up his business, Mr. Adolph had but little property left. Accounts to the amount of about seven hundred dollars were left with a gentleman for collection; but about half of this, when collected, must go to Mr. Otis, to pay him for money advanced on Mr. Adolph's account. The small balance he hoped to have the benefit of in securing a home. The result we will soon see. Over and above these accounts, his property consisted of a large Pennsylvania wagon, a one-horse wagon, four horses, and some loose furniture, which he took with him to the West.

But now came the time of trial to Mrs. Adolph. The thought of leaving her comfortable home, with her

religious privileges, and tearing asunder so many endearing ties, nearly overcame her. She went out into the garden. There she saw the fruits and flowers nurtured by her own hands. The pink, the tulip, and the rose, and the honey-suckle which she had taught to twine up over the gateposts, with a variety of the choicest fruits, she looked upon and left with sad heart. She took a last look, and wept once more over the graves of her two loved ones. In a word, she took a last survey of all the old familiar scenes which she had loved so well. And then, accompanied by a sister, she went into her chamber, and taking her hymn-book in her hand, she opened it to see if she could not light on something to soothe her agitated breast. Her eye

first meets that encouraging hymn beginning:

“Peace, troubled soul, thou needst not fear,
Thy great Provider still is near;
Who fed thee last will feed thee still;
Be calm, and sink into his will.”

As she read these sweet words they were to her as the voice of God speaking to her heart.

Accompanied by Mr. Otis, they at length commenced their journey, which led across the Alleghany mountains, a distance of about three hundred miles. This was in the spring of 1823. The roads were rough and muddy, and it required three weeks of toil and exposure to reach their destined home. Worn by fatigue they were at length rejoiced to find their journey ended, just as the sugar season was closing.

They stopped at a place which we will call Lime Spring, and for a time took up their abode with a cousin, who had pushed out before them.

The country, though wild and rugged, possessed many attractions. It was generally healthy; the soil was very superior, water good, and the growth of trees and vegetation luxuriant. Herds of deer were frequently seen grazing near the houses. There were numerous flocks of wild turkeys, and, in fact, the forest abounded with game. A few days after their arrival, Henry had reached his ninth year.

After the planting and sowing of the spring crop, which was in rented ground, Mr. Adolph built a hewed log house on his brother-in-law's farm, with permission to make that his

residence until he could do better. Here he went into the thick woods, where he had first to clear off a spot large enough for the house, before fields and other improvements were added.*

The pioneers went into their new house while in an unfinished state—without doors, windows, or chimney, and with the chinks all open. Here they were annoyed by flies and musquitoes, and found many privations and hardships, to them, till then, unknown.

It was during the residence at this place that Henry found the pearl of great price. He had closed his tenth year about four months before this event. This occurred at a camp-meeting which was held that season

* See Frontispiece.

about thirty miles distant. At some sacrifice, and considerable inconvenience, Henry's parents went to this meeting, and took him and two of his cousins, and a hired man, along with them. They all professed to be converted before their return. The meeting was one of great power, and there were probably a hundred conversions, as the blessed fruit, besides a great quickening of old professors.

In this connection, it may not be amiss to trace some of the exercises of Henry's mind preceding and accompanying this great spiritual change. It may be supposed that at this early age his feelings were but little excited by a sense of his sins, and that the change in his spiritual state was so gradual as hardly to be perceived. But such was not

the case. He had often felt the keen smartings of guilt, though he had been restrained from open vice. He well knew that he was not at peace with God, and that, dying in such a state, he must be forever miserable. Sometimes when he laid down to sleep he would think how lost would be his condition if he should die before he awoke. When he was asleep, he was often troubled with frightful dreams. When he heard, the loud thunder and saw the vivid lightning, he would fear lest God, by some sudden stroke, should take away his life. Morning and evening he repeated the prayers which his mother had taught him. But this was often no more than lip service, and did not come from the depth of the heart. With all his religious

instruction, he had not yet learned what it was to repent heartily for sin, and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. His heart was full of pride, unbelief, and enmity to God, and often led him to do that which gave him sorrow afterward.

But through great mercy, at the camp-meeting referred to, he was liberated from this cruel bondage; and for this he was indebted, under God, to the earnest efforts of his mother. Frequently during the meeting the ministers and other praying persons formed what they called a "prayer ring." Into this ring all seekers of religion were invited, and here they received the prayers and counsels of the pious. At one time several children and youth found their way into this circle, and among

others, Henry's cousins were on their knees crying for mercy. But Henry kept at a distance, until his mother came and urged him to go into the circle and be prayed for. At first he felt vexed at his mother, and wished she had stayed away. But she was in earnest, and would not be put off. So Henry yielded to her urgent request, and she led him by the hand into the praying circle.

But when he had kneeled down, he did not know what to say, and was tempted to think that people would make sport of him. His mind became much perplexed. But he resolved that his case could be no worse by making a fair trial. He looked up to God, in the use of that most appropriate prayer, "God be merciful to me a sinner." Mercy was

all his plea. At first his breathings were uttered in a whisper; but at length he overcame his base man-fearing spirit, and cried aloud to God for deliverance. And then he feared none but God, and did not care if all the world should hear him. In this struggle he continued about two hours, while Christians around him whispered in his ears the precious promises of God. Suddenly he was enabled to say, from a full heart:

“ But drops of grief can ne’er repay
The debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord, I give myself away—
’Tis all that I can do.”

He now felt that he could give up all for Christ, and believe on him with all his heart. And O what a change now came over him! His load of sin was all gone, and he felt

light enough to "run through a troop, or leap over a wall." His soul, that was all darkness before, was full of light. His sorrow was changed into joy and peace. He rose to his feet and praised God aloud. It seemed as if God had given him a new tongue as well as a new heart. He could now speak as never before.

When the camp-meeting was ended he returned with his now happy parents and cousins, and soon united with the Methodist Episcopal Church on probation. He had now taken an important stand. Like young Hannibal, who swore eternal enmity against the Romans, Henry vowed eternal opposition to Satan's kingdom.

But he had a road to travel which

was full of snares, and many enemies to meet and conquer. Would he hold out faithful? was the question. Some said, "No; he is but a boy, and don't know what he is about. It won't last long. He will soon be like the other boys."

Such predictions were not any help to Henry; they tended to dampen the ardor of his soul; but he felt that "He that was for him was more than all that were against him." Though his inexperienced feet often stumbled, he was mercifully preserved from wholly departing from his God.

CHAPTER III.

FAMILY INCIDENTS.

MR. ADOLPH had spent about a year and a half at his new home, during which several acres of land had been cleared, fenced, and put under cultivation. The climate, and other causes combined, tended greatly to improve his health ; a great blessing, as his large family were dependent upon the labor of his hands for a subsistence.

But he had scarcely begun to feel at home here before he was compelled to leave, because Mr. Otis married, and desired to occupy the place himself. It was a trial to think of commencing again in the woods. About

half a mile distant was a farm, that suited Mr. Adolph very well, and which he purchased, with the expectation of spending his last days upon it. To enable him to make payment he sold part of the farm, there being more land than he wished to cultivate; what was due him at Red Valley, when received, would pay the balance.

Here, as at the former place, the sturdy forest-trees must be felled; a house must be built, and all other needful improvements made. The house was built of hewed logs, with a large chimney and fire-place in one end. It was situated on a beautiful hillock, at the foot of which came bursting from the bank, and bubbling up from the bottom, a large living spring. It was a mineral spring, and

besides its convenience, it was proverbially healthful.

In the early part of the winter Mr. Adolph took possession of his new house, while yet in an unfinished state. Had he not learned to "hope on and hope ever," he would have done but little here after having his plans so often frustrated. But he used often to say, "We will try to do our duty, and leave the event with the Lord."

During the family residence at this place Henry's youngest sister was born. There were now six children, four boys and two girls.

While living in the vicinity of Lime Spring Henry's schooling did not amount to much. It generally consisted of two or three months each winter. Besides having to walk from one to two miles, he was subject to

many interruptions. There was no Sabbath school. Religious meetings were held by the circuit preacher, who came round once in two weeks and preached on a week-day. On Sabbath there was usually prayer and class meeting in a private house, unless some exhorter or local preacher made an appointment.

Here Henry became deeply interested in reading Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*. In this, to him, wonderful book everything appeared like reality. It so influenced his imagination that, when asleep, he would often dream of being a pilgrim, and of traveling the whole road from the City of Destruction to the Celestial City, facing all the dangers and surmounting the obstacles in the way.

While Henry attended school in an

adjoining neighborhood, he was subjected to trials that he had not before known. His schoolmates tried to make sport and derision of him, because he was a church member. They raised false reports about him, and tried to insult him and lead him into open sin. And although he was not always so watchful and prayerful as he should have been, the Lord graciously preserved him from casting away his confidence in his Saviour. The Church also kindly bore with him, and nursed him in her bosom.

An incident may here be related to show the influences by which Henry was surrounded. It was customary in those days to have "*training*," as it was called. The boys thought that they had as good right to train as

the men. Hence each boy had a wooden gun made with a snap, and a cockade made of the fine feathers of geese to wear on his hat. Thus uniformed, when muster day came, the boys, with their little captain and officers, went to march in the rear of the men. Of course Henry did not think there was any harm in this, as the captain of the men was a Methodist class-leader. His mother had expressed her fears; but he was so anxious to go that she gave consent. They marched most of the day to the music of the drum and fife. The heat was very oppressive, and it was very wearisome. When evening came all were glad to go home; but before the soldiers, big and little, could be dismissed, the class-leader captain must treat them.

Very little was then said about temperance, and it was thought no harm for any one to take a dram, if he did not drink enough to make him drunk. The captain had provided a large stone jug, filled with whisky. The company were then formed in a line, on the bank of a large stream, the men first and then the boys. The jug was passed from one to another, each turning it up and drinking all he desired. Henry, to be as manly as the rest, raised the jug to his mouth; but it was so heavy, that he got more than his portion, and it made him quite dizzy-headed, so that he could hardly walk straight. If we should now see a person stagger as he then did, we would call him drunk. But he did not fall down, and was able to walk home, a distance of about

two miles. But this was the last of Henry's training until the law made it his duty.

What took place at the training was common at corn-huskings, log-rollings, raisings, and in harvest. The people thought they must have whisky to make them strong and active. But the temperance reform has brought about a better state of things.

Mr. Otis's father had lately died in the East, and he went back to bring his aged mother to the West. He was authorized by Mr. Adolph to receive his dues in Red Valley, and bring them to him. But how disappointed was Mr. Otis to find that an intriguing man had fraudulently gotten the money into his own hands, and Mr. Adolph's claim was protested.

It was easy to foresee that this

would be a heavy calamity on Mr Adolph and his family. The little means on which he relied to pay for his home was all swept away at a stroke; and he had nothing with which to pay the account which Mr. Otis held against him, of about three hundred and fifty dollars, which was to be paid out of the money here due.

We may easier imagine than describe the feelings of Mr. and Mrs. Adolph on the return of Mr. Otis, when they learned the sad result. Till then Mr. Adolph, in all his adversities, had kept up good courage, and the hope of something better to come seemed to cheer him on. But this sad news affected him to tears, while he exclaimed, "They might as well have taken the bread out of my children's mouths!"

Too true, alas ! but what did they who profited by such dishonesty care for all this ? The grief of Henry's mother was also very great. Mr. Otis sympathized with his afflicted sister and her husband, and, with the large and generous heart of a brother, he handed her the note he held against Mr. Adolph, and said, "Here, take this, and do what you please with it."

It is hard to find a parallel to this act of generosity. If those who have it in their power thus to lighten the burden of their afflicted friends, would do so, how many would rise up to call them blessed !

One thing was now certain, that Mr. Adolph must give up his farm. He had no earthly prospect of securing means to pay for it, and, painful as was the thought, he must look else-

where to gain bread for his family. During all these changes he became more and more impressed with the truth that "here we have no continuing city." But while he dwelt as a stranger and pilgrim, a little while in a place, he strove to seek "a city whose builder and maker is God." And while unjustly stripped of his earthly possessions, it was joyful to think that in heaven he had "a better and enduring substance."

Mr. Adolph now rented a farm about six miles distant, near the village of Coburg. The farm was good, but buildings and fences had become much impaired. The rent was to be paid in making improvements. He removed to this place in the fall of 1827.

In Coburg there was circuit preach-

ing on the Sabbath once a fortnight. Henry and his parents united with the society here, and here he received the first love-feast ticket he ever saw. It was sent to him by the preacher, and read, "Let not your good be evil spoken of." Henry did not know what this meant; he supposed that it was designed as a reproof for something that he had done amiss, until he was told that it was usual to have a verse of Scripture on all the love-feast tickets.

Henry went to school part of that winter. The school-house was situated a mile distant, entirely surrounded with woods. It was a cabin, built of round logs, with a stick chimney in one end. The windows were made by having a log cut out of the wall on three sides. The

sash consisted of flattened sticks, placed a few inches apart, between the logs, and oiled paper was fastened in those homely windows instead of glass. The house was covered with clap-boards, and the floor made of puncheon. Such was the rude school-house in which Henry and his brothers strove to acquire some rudiments of an education.

The winter passed rapidly away. Early in February Mr. Adolph and his boys began to prepare for sugar-making, and things were soon got in readiness to improve the season when it should come on. But, as the event proved, Mr. Adolph's work was about ended. He began to complain of pain in his side and shortness of breath. Soon he was confined entirely to the house, and suffered most





PRAYER-MEETING IN MR ADOLPH'S ROOM.

excruciating pain for a long time, from the dropsy. For about three weeks he could not lie down, day or night, but sat in an arm-chair, gasping for breath, often with door and windows open, though the weather was cold. Medical skill proved ineffectual. But his sick room was a place of prayer and praise. Several prayer-meetings were held about his bed. At first temptation came in upon him like a flood, but by faith he was enabled gloriously to triumph.

Two or three days before he passed from earth he inquired of the doctor, "What do you think about me, doctor?"

"I had always hope till now; but I think you will go now," replied the physician.

“Thank God!” exclaimed the sick man, “my suffering time will soon be over! Glory! O glorious hope of immortality and eternal life! O bright prospect! It shines brighter and brighter! The crown is just before me!”

He called all his relatives and friends around his dying couch, and bade them an affectionate farewell. He addressed his wife in most endearing and touching strains. He regretted to leave her so poorly provided for, but he left her in the hands of God, who would, he was sure, take care of her. To Henry he said:

“My dear child, you have set out young to serve the Lord. How many sins will you escape if you are faithful. Take your little brothers

by the hand, and help them in the way to heaven; and what a blessing will it be if I meet you all in heaven!"

He told his friends not to weep, but to rejoice. Said he, "O, it is a time of rejoicing! Shall I be counted worthy to walk the golden streets of the New Jerusalem, and drink of that fountain which makes glad the city of God? O yes, it is for me!"

Among his last utterances were, "Victory, victory!" And all this he claimed through the blood of the Lamb. On the 15th of May, 1828, just as the glorious sun was arising to enlighten the earth, calmly and peacefully the spirit of Mr. Adolph, redeemed and saved, took its flight to brighter realms of bliss and glory. Happy soul, thy toils, disappoint-

ments and sufferings are now forever ended!

While Henry's mother was weighed down with afflictions and sorrows at home, her grief was increased by news which reached her from abroad. Two or three days after the death of her husband, she received intelligence of the death of a dear sister, who had lived about ninety miles distant, leaving behind a sorrowing companion and three children. In those hours of grief and loneliness she had one living and unfailing friend: that friend was Jesus. She could lean on Him who had promised to be a father to the fatherless, and a husband to the widow, and who had said, "*I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.*"

The death of Henry's father was overruled by Divine Providence for

his spiritual good. He was convinced that he had not been as faithful and exemplary as he should have been. He renewed his covenant with God. Often he was wonderfully blessed when he prayed to God in secret; and from this time he began to bear his cross more openly, and to take part in prayer-meetings and other meetings for social worship.

He was now fourteen years of age, and being the eldest son, much care and responsibility devolved on him in the management of business. With the aid of his younger brothers he cultivated fourteen acres of corn that summer, besides the garden. In the fall it was harvested and taken to market, and the proceeds disposed of to pay doctor's bills, store debts, etc. The loose property was sold at pub-

lic sale the close of the following winter, and when all matters were adjusted, Mrs. Adolph had little left with which to provide for her six children.

Her deceased sister's husband, whose residence was at Newstead, had invited her to come and take shelter under his roof, and assist him in keeping his family together. With this invitation she gladly complied. Early in the spring, while the ground was yet frozen, she set out with her family for her new home, which was situated some ninety miles to the north-west, in a county that was new, abounding with game, and still the home of many Indians. Newstead was a small county town, yet in its infancy. A few wearisome days ended this journey, and Mr.

Adolph was thankful to find a place that she could call home, for herself and family.

As Henry, shortly after this, left the maternal abode, little will be said about his esteemed and precious mother in the further thread of our narrative. But I may here add, for the information of the reader, that after a ripe age of nearly seventy years, and a religious experience of more than forty years, Mrs. Adolph died a most calm, yet triumphant death, in the embrace of her Divine Saviour.

CHAPTER IV.

THE APPRENTICESHIP.

AFTER Mrs. Adolph became fairly settled in Newstead, she deemed it best for her family to put out the boys to learn trades. Henry made choice of the saddler's trade. He soon formed an acquaintance with Mr. Sears, who had recently opened a shop in the place, and who was as anxious to have an apprentice as Henry was willing to become one. But he must have a boy to suit him or none, and Mrs. Sears was, if possible, more difficult to please than himself. So he must take Henry awhile on *trial*.

Mr. Sears was a man who was

respected in the community, a shrewd financier, but honest in his dealings. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and his house was often a home for the traveling preachers. Mrs. Sears was a professing Christian; not then a Methodist, but very correct in her deportment, and one of the neatest and best of housekeepers, even excelling her husband in rigid economy. As might be supposed, Henry did not find everything exactly to his liking; but despite some inconveniences, he had secured a good home under the roof of Mr. Sears, and never regretted the time he there devoted to his trade.

The five trial weeks soon expired, when the time came, to use Mr. S.'s expression, to put on the "grabbing

irons," that is, to make a firm and binding contract by an indenture or writing. Henry was now just fifteen years of age. The parties seemed to be well suited on both sides. There was but one thing in the way of closing the bargain. Henry's mother insisted that her son should serve but five years; Mr. Sears insisted on a term of six years, and neither party would yield in this matter. So, to the great grief of Henry, his mother took him home. But in two or three days Mr. Sears came to Mrs. Adolph's terms, and Henry was bound out for five years. He has ever since looked upon this little incident as a direct interposition of Divine Providence, in saving to him a year from an occupation he was not called to follow in after life. And many times has he

thanked the Lord in his heart for this tender solicitude of his mother.

The leading items of the agreement are told in few words. Henry was on his part to be an obedient and faithful boy, in the line of his duty, to the end of the five years. Mr. Sears, on his part, was to see that he was comfortably and decently clad and properly cared for under his roof; he was to make him master of his trade; to allow him one week every harvest to go out and work for himself; to give him three months schooling in the early part of the term, and three months near the close; and, finally, he was to provide Henry with a good freedom suit when his time ended. All things thus arranged and made as sure as pen and ink could make them, Henry eagerly addressed

himself to his task, determined to master his business, and to acquit himself honorably.

Henry had never lived in a town, and if there were temptations to which he had been a stranger, there were also advantages which he had never before enjoyed. He carefully avoided the company of bad boys, and strove to make the best use of his new opportunities.

The Methodists had recently erected a small brick church in Newstead, which was finished off the following winter. Here there was Methodist preaching twice a day, every fortnight, on the Sabbath. On the alternate Sabbath the Presbyterian minister occupied the house. There was class-meeting once a week, and prayer-meeting every Wednesday evening.

The week-evening meetings Henry could not always attend, as it was the rule to work every night, except Saturday, until nine o'clock, from the 20th of September till the 20th of March.

Though the place was new, the circuit was one of the first, if not the first, in that region, and was generally supplied by experienced, and sometimes talented preachers. Henry strove to benefit by the counsel and instruction of those men of God. He was uniformly on terms of intimacy with them.

It would be too tedious to speak of all those ministers particularly, but there was one to whom Henry was so much indebted for deep and lasting religious impressions, that a more extended notice of him than will be

devoted to others, may not be amiss. Rev. Mr. Winslow, the presiding elder, was a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and drew great crowds after him wherever he went. He was a plain, unassuming man, but possessed wonderful power over his hearers. If the manner of Mr. Winslow could have been looked at, apart from the burning truths he uttered, he would have appeared awkward; but his hearers soon lost sight of his *manner*, and were absorbed in what he said. As he entered into the merits of his subject, it seemed as if the mighty thoughts which were struggling within, and which he would pour forth like a torrent, would tear his body to pieces. The whole man, soul and body, seemed to work intensely. He appeared to preach every

time as if he thought he never should preach again, or as if some soul would be lost if he did not put forth all his strength. At the same time the big sweat-drops would trickle down the locks which hung carelessly over his neck and shoulders. Often, for two or three hours at a time, he would hold the dense crowds which flocked to hear him, spell-bound. The infidel and the Universalist would have all the props knocked out from under them. The knees of hardened sinners would fairly smite together. One after another in the congregation would arise to his feet, and begin to gather up around the stand, if at camp-meeting, with mouth open as if feeding upon manna, till all the congregation were standing around him. In two or three instances, it is said

of him that, by a single burst of his eloquence, his whole audience have been instantly raised to their feet, as if electrified. Under the power of his preaching many would be smitten to the ground, and cries of distress and shouts of deliverance would be heard in every direction. While he preached, this world and all in it looked like an empty bubble, lighter than vanity. The soul, the cross of Calvary, the judgment-day, heaven, hell, eternity; these were themes which occupied the mind. And while his sermons were suited to the loftiest minds, they were brought down to the comprehension of children. No sermons could Henry remember like those of Mr. Winslow's. Often did he walk several miles to hear him, and always felt well paid for so doing. .

Mr. Winslow ordered on a quantity of Sunday-school books, and a Sunday school was commenced in the place, which Henry attended, first as scholar and afterward as teacher. In this school he committed to memory the Lord's sermon on the mount, and many other portions of Scripture, which proved a lasting benefit to him.

He purchased a neat pocket Bible, and paid for it in whip-lashes, which he made after he had ended his day's work—a privilege not often granted him. He also purchased Brown's Concordance and Alexander's Bible Dictionary, from which he derived much help in the study of God's word. When he found difficult passages, he went to an uncle's near at hand, and consulted Dr. Adam Clarke's

Commentary, usually at some convenient hour on the Sabbath.

When Henry first went to Newstead he was the only boy in the place who professed religion ; but after some time had elapsed, there were two or three others to unite with him. At the suggestion of the minister who lived in the place, a “young men’s prayer-meeting” was commenced, to be held once a week, on Saturday evening. The first meeting was held in a hatter’s loft, and was attended by four or five apprentices. This was a place for dressing furs, not a very choice spot ; but God met with his young disciples here, as he did with the Methodists in the “Rigging loft” in New-York. They were soon invited to hold their meetings at private houses, and although they

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BOYS' PRAYER-MEETING

were conducted by young men, others were allowed to attend, and so many became interested in them, that the room was often filled. The duty of leading generally devolved on Henry. By this means he was strangely led in a way that he knew not, and was often blessed in those early attempts to bear the cross.

As time passed along a very devoted minister came upon the circuit, who formed some of the apprentices into a band society, and appointed Henry leader. The band met every Sunday morning, at five o'clock, winter and summer. Those early Sabbath meetings were searching and profitable seasons, and were a good preparation for the more public worship of God during the day. By pursuing this course, those young men

had many crosses and some reproach that they might have avoided; but it was reproach for Christ's sake, and they went on their way rejoicing.

The diligent manner in which Henry was required to apply himself to his trade left him little time for reading or study, except what he could gain by sitting up late, or rising very early; the last was his usual course. For this he furnished his own lights. He had a drawer under his bench where he kept his books. Among the works which he read, greatly to his spiritual profit, were the Christian's Manual, the Memoir of Hester Ann Rogers, Wesley's Sermons, and several other devotional books. The Bible was his constant companion, which he often read prayerfully upon his knees. But no book, besides the

Bible, was so blessed to him as Baxter's Saints' Rest. He sometimes rose as early as two or three o'clock in the morning, and read that book with tears of joy over the encouraging prospect of one day gaining "the saints' everlasting rest."

As time passed along his mind became much exercised respecting higher attainments in his religious life. His soul seemed to cry out,

"'Tis worse than death my God to love,
And not my God alone."

And being fully persuaded that a holy life is only to be obtained by a faithful use of means of God's own appointment, he strove to use all the means of grace and thus to look for God's blessing. Among other duties he often sought God by fasting and

prayer. For a long time he observed every Friday as a stated rule; sometimes eating and drinking nothing from Thursday evening until Friday evening, and at other times simply eating no breakfast. He probably carried this abstemiousness to excess, at times, and thereby injured his health. But the many hallowed hours of deep and heavenly communion with God, seemed to make up for loss of earthly comforts.

During the last two years of his apprenticeship he was sorely afflicted by pain in his side and chest; a result of close confinement at his trade. It followed him for several years, with little abatement, and was often a source of much suffering, though he was never wholly disabled by it. But his term of service at length closed,

and he was happy to take up his indenture creditably to himself, and with the best feelings and wishes of Mr. and Mrs. Sears.

CHAPTER V.

CONVICTIONS OF DUTY, AND EFFORTS
TO BE USEFUL.

DURING the period of which the last chapter forms a partial record, Henry's mind became strangely exercised respecting the spiritual welfare of those around him, especially of his fellow apprentices. A still small voice seemed to urge him to a more open and public cross-bearing life. What this would lead to he could not tell. He did not dare to think it a call to preach the Gospel. His natural diffidence shrunk from any such undertaking. Often in the prayer-meeting, as well as in the retirement of the closet, his whole soul

seemed to go out in longing desire for the unconverted. And those exercises of mind were not unobserved by others. One day while Henry was working at his trade, one of the circuit preachers came up to him and said, "You must preach or be damned."

This Henry thought to be harsh language. But he left his case in the hands of Him who knew what was best for him, unwilling to commit himself to a work of this kind, without the clearest evidence that God had called him.

His mind was especially drawn out in behalf of a physician in Newstead, a relative, who was skeptical in his religious views. Henry often made him a subject of earnest prayer. But it seemed to him that

he must do something more; and under the promptings of duty, he wrote him a very plain letter, reminding him of his talents and position in society, and urging the claims of God upon him. Henry was not apprised of the immediate effect of this letter upon the doctor's mind. But it may simply be stated as a fact, that some years after this, during a gracious revival in Newstead, the doctor was among the subjects of converting grace. His change was a very marked one. And then, while he ministered to the bodies of the sick and dying, he took special pains to minister to their souls, and in some instances was instrumental in the conversion of his suffering patients.

The church, of which Henry had

charge as sexton, was retired from the business part of town, situated on the bank of the river. This he often visited, with some other young men, on pleasant summer evenings, as a sacred retreat where they could worship God unmolested. And often, after having finished their day's work, they went to the grove, lit up by the pale moon or the twinkling stars.

One evening there was present with them in the church an apprentice to a cabinet-maker, whom they had persuaded to seek religion. We will call his name Silas. During the devotions Silas' convictions of sin became very deep and pungent, and he cried to God earnestly for mercy. God was present to bless. While those young men united in singing the hymn called "Wrestling Jacob,"

the burden of Silas was removed, and he went home rejoicing. He has since become a preacher of the Gospel, and has been extensively useful.

One Sabbath, in the interval of public worship, Henry and Silas went out into the woods, as they often did, to pray. They were both wonderfully blessed, in thus waiting upon God. Rising from their knees, Henry addressed Silas, in substance: "We have proved how good religion is ourselves, and we ought to try to persuade others to go along with us. Now you choose one, and I will choose one, and we will each talk with the person selected, and try to lead him to Christ. To this Silas agreed. He chose a youth whom we will call Robert. Henry's mind fixed upon one we will call Jonas. The last

named was about eighteen years of age, rude and wicked.

That same evening, as Henry was passing along the street, he providentially, as he thought, met Jonas. They saluted each other; after which Jonas asked Henry if there would be meeting that evening. Henry replied that there would, and as it was drawing near the time, invited Jonas to accompany him to the church. To this he consented, and locking arms they walked down to the river, and sat down on the green grass, near the church, during which the following conversation took place between them:

Henry said: "Jonas, do you not think it high time for you to commence in the service of the Lord?"

He replied, "I do;" at the same

time relating an awful dream that he had dreamed the night before.

If my memory is not at fault, this dream related to the second coming of Christ, and the scenes of the last judgment; but the particulars have escaped my recollection.

Here they talked freely together on the important subject of salvation.

After the public meeting, the young men tarried awhile, and prayed with Jonas; but he did not find relief that night. They agreed to meet the next night and go to the woods for the same purpose. The next evening they met, according to promise, went to the woods, and had a season of wrestling prayer. Jonas was not converted that night, but soon after found the Saviour, and became a worthy member of the

Church. While these youths were praying they made more noise than they were aware of, and the sound was carried on the evening breeze to town, and about a dozen persons came out to see what was the matter. They came nearly up to the boys, and stopped without disturbing them. As they rose from their knees they saw the men; but God made their faces like flint. Meeting the company, a gentleman said :

“Why, what in the world is the matter? We thought some person was in deep distress!”

“There was,” replied Henry.

He said again: “You almost alarmed the town.”

Henry answered: “Would to God we could have alarmed them out of their sins.” The man said no more.

Robert was also persuaded to seek religion; but he did not long continue. His goodness was "like the morning cloud and the early dew, which goeth away."

A very interesting incident occurred about this time in the church. It was on a Sabbath evening. A large number of persons came out to prayer-meeting, but no one was present accustomed to lead them. A young man who had lately come to town—a member of the Church, but who did not identify himself with the movement among the apprentices—was present. Henry went to him and requested him to take the lead of the meeting, intimating that it would not do to let the people go away without prayer. But he scornfully replied, "We have no right to

hold meeting." He then arose, sung the doxology, and dismissed the congregation! He afterward left the Methodist Episcopal Church, and united with another Church.

As soon as the people were dismissed Henry invited the young men to tarry for prayer. He opened the meeting, and then gave an exhortation to such as desired religion, to come and kneel at the "mourners' bench," as it was called.

Several came, and among them a young man who had been a ring-leader in the ranks of sin. The weather was warm, and the windows were open, so that the noise of the meeting was heard in town, and a number of persons came and looked on with astonishment, but made no disturbance. In his deep agony the

young man fell upon the floor, and seemed as if he would almost die in the struggle. But in a short time his captive soul was set at liberty, and he walked the house, praising God, and continued to praise him all the way home. He afterwards became a worthy member of the church.

In the mean time Mr. Sears had taken another apprentice, whom we will call Jason. He was a bright youth of fifteen, but a great mimic, and delighted to make sport of Henry's religious course. Especially on his fast day would he try every way to annoy and irritate him. He appeared at times almost like the evil spirit that troubled Saul. After bearing for months this sore trial, Henry was greatly rejoiced to see Jason happily converted, the next

summer, at a camp-meeting. Jason afterward became a worthy traveling minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Some years after this he thus wrote to Henry :

“Dear friend and brother in the Lord: With you I have spent many happy seasons; with you I spent the most critical part of my life—the time that I was prone to all evil in the slippery paths of youth. . . . It pleased God to make you one of the instruments of my sound conversion to the faith of Christ; a poor, fickle, unstable, and froward boy, brought, by the power of God, to see himself, and made to rejoice in his love.”

Among others it was Henry's joy to see his brothers, one after another, made savingly acquainted with the Lord.

Rev. Mr. Goodman, the preacher in charge at this time, seemed to understand Henry's case better than any one else, and occasionally took him to out appointments, and had him exhort and lead class. Indeed he gave him *verbal* license to exhort. A brief notice of one of those early efforts may not be out of place here.

One Sabbath afternoon Mr. Goodman had an appointment in an adjoining village, and took Henry with him. He preached a sermon about twenty minutes long, and then called on Henry to exhort. The house was crowded, and there were present many of the gay, fashionable, and irreligious men and women of the place. He arose with trembling; the cross had never before seemed so heavy. A silent prayer ascended from his heart,

that God would take away the fear of man, and help him to bear witness to the truth. As he arose he commenced to sing :

“ Young people all, attention give
While I address you in God’s name :
Ye who in sin and folly live,
Come hear the counsel of a friend,” etc.

The hymn had a very subduing effect on the audience, and also prepared Henry’s mind for an exhortation. He was known to most present as an apprentice boy, but they had not heard him attempt to speak in public. All of course were attentive to hear what the youth would say. God blessed him at that time with great freedom of utterance. Tears flowed freely down his cheeks, and a Divine influence seemed strangely to move on the hearts of the assembly,

while he interwove with his exhortation his own religious experience, and related the triumphant death of his dear departed father. It was by such experiments, accompanied with the Divine blessing, that God impressed upon his mind that he had a more important work for him to do than to make saddles.

The following spring, just about the time Henry's apprenticeship expired, the minister who had followed Mr. Goodman, without any solicitation on the part of Henry, presented him with a written license to exhort. He was now just twenty years of age.

Before Henry took leave of Mr. Sears, he was provided with a comfortable and decent, though not costly freedom suit. This he felt it his duty to have made plain. His coat was

cut in the fashion of a dress-coat, single-breasted; an overcoat, which his mother bought for him, was also made plain. His hat, to be orthodox, must be white, and have a wide brim. He had cherished an exceeding dislike to gay clothing and the mere tinselry of fashion. The plainness of those able and devout ministers he most esteemed, such as Rev. Mr. Winslow and others, was his example. He also agreed with the venerable Wesley on this subject. He may at that time have attached too much importance to the particular shape of the coat, or the size of the hat brim. But if he erred it was on the safe side; and he has never for a moment regretted the bold stand that he then took.

CHAPTER VI.

ACQUIRING AN EDUCATION.

IN what has been already said it is seen that Henry Adolph's early advantages for study were quite limited. And during his apprenticeship, the six months' schooling, being received at the beginning and end of his term of service, was not so beneficial to him as if it could have come nearer together. As it was, he made the best of it till his time was at his own disposal. He now made up his mind to attend a literary institution at Pleasant Arbor, under the direction of a learned and venerable man, a graduate of Yale College. This was

some thirty-four miles distant from Newstead.

But as Henry had been long confined to the shop, he proposed, before entering upon his course of study, to take a tour for the good of his health. He first made a neat portable valise for his wardrobe and books. With money, furnished by his mother, to buy some plain grave-stones to erect at his father's grave, and a little spending money she had given him, he shouldered his valise and started on foot. He first went to Pleasant Arbor, and made arrangements to go to school. Thence, in another direction, he traveled about thirty miles more, and stopped eight or ten days with his old friend and pastor, Mr. Goodman, and assisted him in his work on the circuit. These were pleasant and

profitable days. Thence he traveled about seventy miles further, and visited his old friends in the vicinity of Lime Spring, and held several meetings. Here the scenes of his childhood were vividly brought to mind, and he found it good to be reminded of the watchful Providence that had guided his youthful steps. He returned again to Newstead, accompanied by an uncle and his wife; spent a few days with his mother and friends, and then repaired to Pleasant Arbor, and entered upon his studies with determination.

But he was without means to pay the expenses that would attend such a course. To meet these he worked mornings and evenings in a saddler's shop. And during a vacation of about five weeks, near the close of

summer, he thus earned about thirty dollars. He taught school also one quarter, while connected with the seminary, for which he was paid the large (?) sum of eleven dollars a month. Part of the time, while at the seminary, he united with several other young men who bought their provisions, did their own cooking, and lived very cheaply.

His studies were mostly confined to the English branches, such as Grammar, Natural Philosophy, Rhetoric, and Logic; but after a time Latin was added to his course, in which he made some proficiency. But his term at the institution, owing to the almost entire failure of his health, was a very brief one, and included only about a year, embracing three months spent in teaching.

But though this period was a brief one, Henry learned several important lessons. 1. He began to see, as never before, how much there was to be known, and how little he knew. 2. He began to learn *how to learn*. Here also began a process of mental discipline, to which he was before a stranger, and which was of great advantage to him when he was forced to study in smoky log-cabins, amid the confusion of large families, and the noise of crying children. And 3. He had taken some important first lessons, which opened up the way to further attainment in the future. He felt it to be simply the entrance upon a life course of study and improvement.

In Henry's efforts to acquire knowledge he had a specific object, which

he endeavored never to lose sight of—this was a preparation for usefulness in the Lord's vineyard, in which he now felt himself called to labor. And as his religious exercises and public exhortations all had a bearing on this object, a brief notice of them will be more in place here than anywhere else.

Several pious young men were at the seminary, who, like himself, were looking forward to the ministry. The young men's prayer-meetings, which they held weekly, were times of great spiritual profit. And besides these, several band societies had been organized, and were greatly blessed to the pious students. With regular preaching on the Sabbath, the weekly prayer-meeting and the class-meetings, there was no lack of religious privileges.

That hungering and thirsting for full redemption in the blood of the Lamb, which he had often felt before, he still felt; and often did he wrestle and agonize with God for the blessing. But he continued to be troubled with an unbelieving heart, which often hid the brightness of his Saviour's countenance. While here the language of his heart was:

“I cannot rest till pure within—
Till I am wholly lost in Thee.”

For this he sought by prayer and fasting, and in the use of all the means of grace. One evening, at a young men's prayer-meeting, he was much drawn out in prayer for this blessing. A brother was present who made a profession of holiness, and noticed the struggle of Henry's

mind. He went to him at the close of the meeting, and said to him: "The blessing is for you; you may have it this very night; but you must seek it by faith." He urged him not to rest longer without it.

It was a clear moonlight night, and Henry determined to spend the night in prayer, but that he would obtain the blessing. Accompanied by two of his young friends, he went to a neighboring wood, and there, kneeling by the roots of a venerable tree, they prayed and wrestled till near the hour of midnight. The prayer of faith prevailed with God. These words were applied to Henry's mind, as if spoken by an audible voice: "He that believeth is sanctified already." He cried out, "Lord, I believe; help thou my unbelief!"

Instantly an indescribable influence seemed to steal over him. Such a sweet peace—such a calm sinking out of self into God—such melting, overwhelming mercy as he had never felt before. It was

“The speechless awe that dares not move,
And all the silent heaven of love.”

He could no longer doubt. The earthen vessel was full and running over, and for several days he was so happy that he could scarcely refrain from praising God aloud in school.

But now came a great cross, and that was to confess what God had done for him. The Thursday evening prayer-meeting came—a good time to all present. The lecture-room in the basement of the church was well filled. The principal, seve-

ral other preachers, the preceptress, and many of the students, male and female, were present. Something whispered to Henry, "Now is the time to own your Saviour." The cross was heavy, and the enemy made a violent assault. But without waiting to confer with flesh and blood, at a suitable moment he rose tremblingly, and in a subdued tone related what the Lord had done for him. It was all new and unexpected to the people; and to professed Christians and the ministers it was like electricity. Every Christian heart seemed like an electrical wire to conduct the divine influence to the next. Many sighed and prayed for a clean heart, and the influence of that meeting did not soon die away.

During Henry's connection with

the seminary he had regular appointments, on Sabbath, within a distance of three or four miles, where he exhorted and held class-meetings. The students often went out two and two. Though these were but the efforts of beginners, the Lord often set the seal of his approbation on them, and they were mostly received with great kindness and forbearance on the part of the hearers.

Thus passed this interesting portion of Henry's life, a period which had much to do, short as it was, with laying the foundation of his after ministerial life.

A very pleasing reflection is here suggested. Twelve or fifteen of the young men who were in attendance on that institution, afterward became connected with the traveling ministry.

Several of them have occupied prominent posts in the Church, and have been the means of doing great good in advancing the Redeemer's kingdom.

CHAPTER VII.

THE BOY PREACHER.

THE failure of Henry's health has before been alluded to. At the expiration of about a year after he first entered his name at the Pleasant Arbor Seminary, the winter term of the school closed. Quarterly meeting for the circuit was held about the same time. Here Henry received license to preach the Gospel. At this quarterly meeting he became acquainted with the presiding elder of a neighboring district, who afterward employed him on a circuit. He first returned to Newstead to spend a few days with his mother, fully intending to return again to school. While

here, the presiding elder referred to met him again, and urged him to accompany him to a quarterly meeting, about thirty miles distant, in a very new and wild region of country. Henry yielded, and in much physical depression made the rough jaunt on horseback. Here the elder, Mr. Noise, urged him to go immediately into the traveling connection, as a chance for the restoration of his health. He desired to have him travel as junior preacher on a circuit about thirty-five miles further, through an almost unbroken wilderness, and which could only be reached by a rough trail, leading in many places through dismal swamps.

After duly weighing the matter, Henry consented; and here parting with the elder, he returned to New-

stead, thence to Pleasant Arbor, where he settled his business, and went into a saddler's shop and made a pair of saddle-bags. He returned again to Newstead, and purchased a horse on credit, procured an outfit, and started for his circuit. On his way his horse became disabled, and he was obliged to exchange for another, for which he gave ten dollars boot. The horse he obtained in exchange was without shoes; he had yet thirty-five miles before him, and less than a dollar left, and he was going among entire strangers, in a strange land. But he determined to go, if he had to go afoot; and he did go, and reached his circuit, where the people received him with open arms, and provided for his wants.

On his circuit were some twenty-

two preaching places, in a thickly wooded country of swamps, and unbridged rivers and streams, which he had often to swim to reach his appointments. It was also a time of great scarcity of food. Little wheat bread was to be seen; corn was also very scarce, and what there was had been brought fifty or sixty miles, with ox teams, over almost impassible roads. But deer were abundant, and there was also plenty of wild honey, and abundance of wild fruit. Here Henry labored, in connection with an honored colleague, for about three months, was treated with great kindness by the people, who paid him his full amount of quarterage, and made him presents to the amount of some twelve dollars. He had the privilege of seeing souls converted to

God, as seals of his ministry. With his esteemed presiding elder, he attended three camp-meetings, one of which was on his own circuit. At this camp-meeting his case was brought before the Quarterly Conference, from which he was recommended to the Annual Conference, as a suitable person to be received into the traveling connection. Much improved in health, Henry returned to spend the interval of conference with his friends at Newstead, and to await the order of Providence in his case.

To obtain an idea of this youthful preacher, the reader may imagine a slim, delicate-looking young man, of about five feet eight inches in height, with fair but ruddy complexion, blue eyes, and light auburn hair, and a

light, though shrill voice. For two or three years after he entered the itinerant field, he was commonly known as "the Boy Preacher." Take an illustration or two: At a quarterly meeting, in a prominent village, he was asked to take a seat in the pulpit. A lady coming into the house and seeing him in the pulpit, whispered to one who sat near her, "I wonder if *that boy* is going to preach," little dreaming that *that boy* would, in after years, become her partner for life. At another time Henry had preached in town in the morning, and to reach his afternoon appointment, he attempted to follow a shorter though less plain road. He called at a house to inquire the way. The man of the house told him which way to go, and then inquired his

business. Henry told him that he had an appointment to preach. The man replied: "What, you preach the Gospel! Such a green-gosling looking fellow as you preach the Gospel! You'd better go home and go to husking corn!"

Henry thought there might be more truth than poetry in the man's retort, and turned away and left him, the more thoughtful for the reception he had met.

On his way he well nigh mired his horse, but he reached his appointment, and found the house crowded, and God blessed him wonderfully in attempting to speak in his name. He afterward rode about three miles further, and preached with uncommon liberty to another housefull. By this help from Heaven his heart

was strengthened and encouraged, and he became more than ever resolved so to conduct himself in public and in private that no man should despise his youth.

At the close of the conference, which had convened about the middle of August, word reached Henry that he had been received on trial, and appointed to Northford Circuit, only about eighteen miles distant from Newstead. This was a large, laborious circuit, much of it a wilderness, and embracing dreary, dismal swamps. In the center, however, there was a very flourishing town, where he and his colleague preached once every Sabbath alternately.

Part of this year Henry was sorely afflicted with his side-difficulty, which his many exposures greatly ag-

grevated. His afflictions were increased by an attack of the measles, which he thought, at one time, would end his life. But he felt ready either to live or die as the Lord should choose. On recovering from the measles his general health was much better than before.

Henry spent this year in reading, studying, writing, visiting, traveling, preaching, and praying with the people, during which God gave him fresh tokens that he had called him to labor in his vineyard. In the principal town the people in general appeared much hardened, and little fruit seemed to result from his efforts, united with those of one of the best of colleagues. But at several other points God was pleased to revive his work, and especially among the children and youth.

At one place about twenty, from the age of eight and upward, became the subjects of converting grace; and so marked and powerful was the change, that some of the more advanced in years were afterward added to the Church, through their pious example. The year, which was a very laborious one throughout, closed with an interesting camp-meeting, from which Henry went with the elder and some of the other preachers to attend, for the first time, the annual conference, fifty or sixty miles distant.

In the doings of the conference the reader will feel no particular interest. The result, as it regarded Henry Adolph, was to hoist him some distance from his friends into the northwest, within one of the *then* territories of our great frontier. We

will call the circuit Oakville. It embraced several thriving villages, settled mostly with intelligent and enterprising Eastern people. One of them was at the termination of a railroad which has since been greatly extended. Surrounding those villages the circuit embraced quite an area of country, some of it heavily timbered, and having rough and muddy roads as the only avenues of travel. But in general the circuit lay in undulating openings, and the roads were quite good.

From conference Henry went home, and spent two days with his friends, preaching for them on the Sabbath. He then took leave of his weeping mother and friends, to go as a stranger in a strange land to preach Christ. The tenderness of such a parting

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FORDING A RIVER.

scene is not known to any but those who have experienced it. On his way to his new field, he was compelled to ford a large river, and not being sufficiently acquainted with the crossing, he went a little too low down stream; the result was, that the horse had to swim, and he became very wet, and got his clothes and books in his saddle-bags wet. In this condition he rode all day over a very disagreeable road while it rained nearly all the time. At night he stopped at a miserable tavern where he could not dry his clothes, or sleep for other annoyances. The next morning, still wet, cold, and uncomfortable, he paid his bill, and started very early for his circuit, and arrived at a small village within its bounds, in time to breakfast with some of his members. Here, as at

other points on the circuit, he was received with true Christian hospitality, and soon made to feel at home.

It was to Henry's advantage this year to be junior preacher again. It was an important year with him, as he must pass his examination at the next conference for full membership as a traveling preacher. The presiding elder was a man of very respectable attainments, a popular and highly-esteemed minister, and a great friend to the young men in his district, especially to such as were of studious habits. Henry found in him an ardent and faithful friend.

At one point on this circuit two band societies were formed, with one of which Henry was connected. Two of the young men who used to meet

with him at the hour of five o'clock in the morning, in band meetings, are now prominent ministers in one of our Western conferences. We may see from this fact the connection of youthful traits with after life.

A considerable part of this year Henry labored with great bodily affliction. His side troubled him much ; but he endeavored to devote all his powers to his Master's work. His rule was to rise at four o'clock in the morning. He carried books with him wherever he went, and endeavored to redeem time for study. In his preaching he insisted much on holiness of heart and life, and his memoranda preserved at the time, shows how his own soul went out in longing desire to be fully conformed to the image of God.

There was no general revival on the circuit, and yet there were few points where there were not some conversions, and several professed to be sanctified.

Thus filled up with active duties, the year soon rolled round, and Henry rejoiced to meet the ministers and preachers at conference in the city of ——. He had endeavored to be ready for his examination, which was to be before an experienced and able committee. This long-dreaded ordeal he passed better than all his fears, and was received into full membership in the —— conference. The Friday before his ordination was to him a very solemn day, which he spent in fasting and prayer, preparatory to taking upon him the weighty vows of the min-

istry. He was ordained deacon by the late venerable Bishop Roberts.

At this conference the most prominent town within the bounds of the circuit traveled by Henry the previous year was set off as a station, which we will call Attica, with a few out appointments attached. To this station he was sent for the coming year.

We have now followed the Backwoods Boy through numerous changes and vicissitudes, till, in the providence of God, we find him inducted into the regular ministry. His success was even beyond his own expectations, in view of the many privations, hardships, and opposing influences of his early days. This success was owing, in part, to systematic and diligent application to study and the

work of his calling, in which he was guided and strengthened from above in answer to fervent and believing prayer.

CHAPTER VIII.

LIFE IN THE MINISTRY.

OUR last interview with the subject of these brief sketches was at the conference where he received his appointment to the Attica station. A little back of this date was an event of considerable importance, which we will now notice.

A short time prior to the conference just mentioned, Henry assumed the responsibilities of married life. Far separated from all his relatives, he found a most congenial spirit in the person of Miss Celia Cady. Though, like Henry, she had suffered the want of early advantages, she had, as a gift of Providence, a mind

of a high order, which, despite the obstacles in her way, had already developed into maturity beyond her years. At the early age of twelve she was soundly converted to God, and united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and became a devoted, consistent and active member.

She was remarkably gifted in prayer, and was much at home in the Sunday school, a place where she loved to labor. She was plain, but scrupulously neat and tidy in her dress and personal appearance. And the same order and neatness which she evinced in her person marked all her household duties. In short, she was, both by nature and grace, fitted to be the partner of a traveling Methodist preacher. Her warmest sympathies were with the high

calling of Henry, and from the time that this happy union was consummated, she felt that she was solemnly consecrated to this holy work within her sphere.

They met a very cordial reception in the Attica station from the members of the Church. Their first setting out was a matter of no great importance. With limited means, they commenced housekeeping in a way suited to their circumstances. Their wants were few, and these, with God's blessing, were supplied. All in all, perhaps no union was ever more congenial or happy than this one.

Thus matters begun and continued for some time. But with passing months came a change. Mercies began to be mingled with judgments, and the bright visions of the future

were overhung with a dark cloud. Mrs. Adolph was laid upon a bed of sickness. The ravages of a quick consumption became fearfully evident. Medical skill and the most vigilant attention of kind and sympathizing friends proved useless and vain. In short, after the brief space of four months and nine days from their marriage, surrounded by the sweet stillness of the holy Sabbath, she fell asleep in Jesus, and her blood-washed spirit flew to join the Church of the first-born, to spend an unending Sabbath in heaven.

The full effect of this stroke on Henry is known only to himself. I will attempt no description. It may suffice, that while the deep sympathies of his heart could only find suitable expression in flowing tears,

by the grace of God he was enabled to exclaim, as he saw the conflict ended, "The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away ; and blessed be the name of the Lord."

Previous to their marriage Miss Cady's friends had left and gone to another state, and in those hours of sorrow there was not a relative on either side present. Henry followed, as a lone mourner, the remains of his departed youthful companion, which were laid beneath the snow of December, to await a glorious resurrection. Hallowed are these mournful recollections ! The balmy atmosphere of heaven seemed to fan the last hours of this youthful disciple, ripe for her heavenly home. Dear reader, would you die as she died ? Then *live as she lived.*

Though Henry was far separated from relatives, he was not without friends who kindly sympathized with him in this heavy affliction. This fiery trial was sanctified to his spiritual good. He received a new baptism from on high, and felt a new consecration to the work of the ministry. And as the winter passed along, his heart was cheered with the evidences of Divine approval, in his efforts to save souls. About New Year a very gracious revival broke out in his charge, and a goodly number were converted and added to the Church under his ministry. He was permitted also to respond to the Macedonian call from a neighboring charge, where a revival had commenced, in which, under his labors, united with those of the circuit preacher, nearly

the entire neighborhood embraced religion. Thus the year closed as one of great spiritual prosperity to the Church.

At the next conference Henry received his appointment to the Caledonia station. This was a flourishing town of several thousand inhabitants, connected with other important points by railroad. This charge, being among a highly intelligent class of inhabitants, and a place of some note, was evidence of the confidence placed in Henry by his esteemed presiding elder. It was with great fear and trembling that he entered upon the duties of his new field.

At the commencement of the conference year, Henry again thought it his duty to change his relation in life, and he gave his hand to a Christian

lady, who has since proved a worthy helpmeet in the labors and sacrifices of the itinerant life.

This was a year of some good degree of success and prosperity, mingled with sore trials of mind and deep afflictions of body. All the year a very intelligent and often large congregation attended upon the ministry of the word. Several souls were converted and united with the Church, though the revival did not become very general. Henry here met some opposing influences in his attempts to discharge his ministerial duty, to which he had before been a stranger. In their midst his faith was severely tested; but he was enabled gradually to rise above them; and before the year closed the difficulties that occasioned them vanished.

In the opening spring Henry was laid up for two or three weeks with ague. With this exception, he and Mrs. Adolph enjoyed pretty good health till near the close of the year. It was an unusually sickly summer. Henry was called to attend frequent funerals, and to be much among the afflicted. Now he was brought very low by a malignant fever. He was just able to rise from his bed, when Mrs. Adolph was attacked with the same disease and brought to the verge of death. Her life was despaired of by all who saw her. At the same time Henry's sister, living with them, was taken sick, and one was scarcely able to afford help to the other; but with God's blessing, and the help of a good physician and kind neighbors and friends, they all gradually recov-

ered, but not without frequent attacks of ague all the following winter.

Several other stations that Henry was called to fill we must pass over with great brevity. The next was a station consisting of two villages, situated about four miles apart, where, with his family, Henry spent a pleasant and profitable year. His strength was so reduced from his recent afflictions, that for some months he could not labor with his wonted energy.

Henry went the next year from this station to a circuit, and for the first time had a junior preacher to help him. The principal point was a considerable town, where preaching was kept up every Sunday. During the winter the Church in this place was strengthened by a number of conversions and additions.

This year Mr. Adolph's family was increased by the birth of a daughter. This blessing was received thankfully as a gift of heaven; and at an early day she was consecrated to God in holy baptism.

From this station Mr. Adolph removed to a large four weeks' circuit as preacher in charge. The first year he was assisted by an aged minister, who had spent the prime and vigor of his life in the itinerancy, and who still, as a preacher, was full of the fire of his youth. In the exercise of discipline a number were this year laid aside from Church fellowship, but their loss was more than made up by others who united. All the interests of the Church were promoted, and God gave his servants witness that he owned and blessed their labors.

The following year Mr. Adolph returned to the same charge. But a division was made in the circuit shortly after, and the portion within which he lived assigned to him. In the town where he resided the Church appeared to be gradually gathering strength, and was in a healthy state. On New Year's eve he held a watch-night here, and preached to the people with great liberty and the unction of the Spirit on the redemption of time. The word took effect, and a good revival commenced from that meeting, which resulted in the happy conversion of a goodly number of souls, comprising children, and youth, and persons in middle age. The interest of the meetings kept up through the rest of the year, when Mr. Adolph was permitted to close

two years spent very pleasantly, and it is hoped usefully, with the people of this charge. When he took his leave of them the separation was deeply affecting.

In this chapter we have glanced rapidly over a period of six years among the most active and laborious of Mr. Adolph's itinerant life. The sketch, as a matter of course, is imperfect. Many incidents have been passed over, and others only given in part. At the commencement of those six years a serious calamity came upon the people, in the shape of broken banks and bad money. There were great want and suffering in the country for years, as a result; and no class of the community felt the hard times like the Methodist preachers. They could obtain but little

money, and it was often hard to make the ends of the year meet. This state of things pressed severely on Mr. Adolph, and the prospect was often so dark that he could see but a short distance ahead. But his trust was in God, who took care of him and his family, and brought him safely through, after long waiting in the use of appointed means.

In the midst of the active duties of the ministry, Mr. Adolph strove to redeem time for study, in which he continued to make progress. He often committed his thoughts to paper, an exercise in which, from a child, he delighted. As a means of discipline to the mind, he occasionally wrote for the periodical press. Most of the articles thus furnished were published in a branch of the "Advo-

cate family." He became convinced that, whatever others might do, for him to succeed as a preacher of the Gospel he *must study and write*. He believed the adage his old preceptor used to repeat in the hearing of his pupils: "He who reads much will be a full man; he who converses much a ready man; but he who writes much a correct man."

CHAPTER IX.

HENRY'S MISSION LIFE.

In the providence of God a new field of action seemed to open before Mr. Adolph. The great mission field was spread out on every hand, and he had often felt that, if duty should call him in that direction, he would be willing to labor, and, if need be, to suffer, in planting the standard of the cross on heathen ground. But he made no offer of himself or of his services, content to follow in this, as in other matters, the openings of Providence.

At the annual conference immediately following the time mentioned in the chapter just closed, Mr.

Adolph was urged, by one of the superintendents of missions, to devote himself to this work among the Indians of the far north. This call was deliberately and prayerfully weighed, and resulted in clear conviction of duty, and drew from the heart the response, "Here am I, Lord, send me." The appointment was accordingly made by the bishop presiding at the conference.

With all possible dispatch Mr. Adolph and his family made their way, mostly by water, several hundred miles, to his new field among the red men of the wilderness.

It would be entirely aside from my plan to enter into a detail of the labors, travels, privations, and exposures of Mr. Adolph and his family in their missionary efforts. All that

I can do here is to give a rapid sketch. The scene of his missionary labors bordered on a magnificent inland sea, once known by the name of "Lake Tracy." The country was a wild and inhospitable region, with few exceptions, inhabited by tribes of Indians. The winters were long, and often exceedingly cold, and snow was frequently four or five feet deep on a level. For four years successively Mr. Adolph labored among the Indians at different points, teaching, preaching, and doing the work of a Christian pastor, and traveling from place to place, both in winter and summer, to visit the scattered bands. Added to all this, he found it often necessary to labor hard with his hands, as a pattern of industry to the Indians, who needed to be instructed

in all the arts of civilized life. And while Mr. Adolph was thus employed, Mrs. Adolph strove to give suitable lessons to the female Indians, both by precept and example, in the various domestic duties.

This field was proverbially unpromising, like the dreary aspect of the country itself. But although the visible fruits of the efforts here put forth did not appear so abundant as in many places, good results were often apparent. The Indians were seen generally to advance in the arts of civilized life; the Church was occasionally strengthened by the addition of converts from paganism; and in the happy death of some of the Christian Indians, the blessed ripe fruits of missionary efforts were seen.

Within the period of which we now speak, the tide of white population began to flow into that remote region. Men came to seek their fortune in mining for copper and other minerals, and it was not long before a promising field opened among them for missionary effort. This field was assigned to Henry, and in this he labored according to his ability during one entire year and portions of another. Those efforts imposed upon him long journeys on foot, and often alone, through the dense forest, with only an occasional log-cabin or hut to break the dreary solitude. In the winter he traveled on snow-shoes, often carrying a considerable pack on his back. In some of his travels in that wild region he has slept night after night in the wilderness, making his "nest," as the

Indians say, in the deep snow. At different times he lost his way, and once was on the brink of perishing from fatigue and exhaustion, after being out nearly two days and one night, forcing his way through dismal swamps, with no trail or human footprints to guide him.

The pioneers of the wilderness received him gladly, sat attentively under his ministrations, and contributed generously to his support. In several places he was the first to unfurl the banner of the cross, and gather together a few of the foundation materials of the future Church. Though those efforts were bestowed on a floating population, the seed of eternal life was sown in some hearts, the fruit of which is yet to be gathered into the garner of heaven.

From the field embracing the white population Mr. Adolph was removed to one much more extended and responsible. He was appointed superintendent of the missions in the entire region of Lake Tracy. Here, considering the number of missionaries he had to deal with, the large scope of country he must travel, the affairs, temporal and spiritual, which, to a considerable extent, he must oversee, among the Indians, all these and many other things he found to give him all that he could do with his head, and heart, and hands. The extent of his field was about fifteen hundred miles, which he traveled once every summer, by water and on foot, besides what he traveled in the winter on snow-shoes. He could only have access to the whole district in the summer season.

Some four years were devoted to the arduous toils of the district. These were the most successful years Henry witnessed in the Lake Tracy country. He was permitted to see several societies gathered together among the white population, Sunday schools planted, temperance societies formed, and a lively interest taken in the great missionary cause.

Among the Indians the good work was seen steadily to advance. They were seen to quit the chase and adopt the habits of civilized life. They gave up their gods of wood and stone—renounced their many deities which, as they supposed, people earth and heaven, and embraced Jesus as the Saviour of sinners. Many of them became the happy subjects of converting and renewing grace,

and, if they prove faithful unto the end, will one day join the general assembly and Church of the first-born in heaven.

It is not my purpose to follow Henry Adolph any farther in his itinerant career. He still lives, and is no doubt in his *nitch* somewhere in the great field, preaching Jesus and the resurrection. I must close my narrative with a few of the characteristics of the country in which Mr. Adolph labored as a missionary.

CLIMATE.

The ruggedness of the winters has already been spoken of. To this it may be added that during the summer season the air is most pure and bracing. And nothing can exceed

the purity and transparency of the waters in its springs and lakes. The country is proverbially healthful. It has now become a great resort for the traveling public, especially during the sickly season.

PRODUCTS.

These are copper, iron, lumber, and fish of several varieties, and taken in great abundance. Sugar is another important commodity, which the Indians make, in large quantities, for sale and home use. The soil produces in abundance grass, oats, peas, potatoes and turnips, and most garden roots. Among the fruits are the cranberry, the whortleberry, and the red raspberry. The last two are found in almost any quantity. One man in that country is getting rich

by making raspberry jam, which he puts up in jars, and sends off in boats to a distant market. One part of the district produced wild rice.

MANNER OF LIVING, TRAVEL, ETC.

I must be excused from giving here a description of the manners and customs of the Indians specifically. The youthful reader may find books which are devoted to this subject, which he will do well to read.

There are some respects, however, in which the country here spoken of is isolated from the rest of the world, and in the early day now spoken of the manner of life was different from, what we find it in civilized lands. Among the leading articles of food were flour, pork, corn, fish, and potatoes. In some parts wild rice was

used freely. To this we may add tea and coffee, of which the natives especially were passionately fond; and too many, alas, would drink whisky when they could get it.

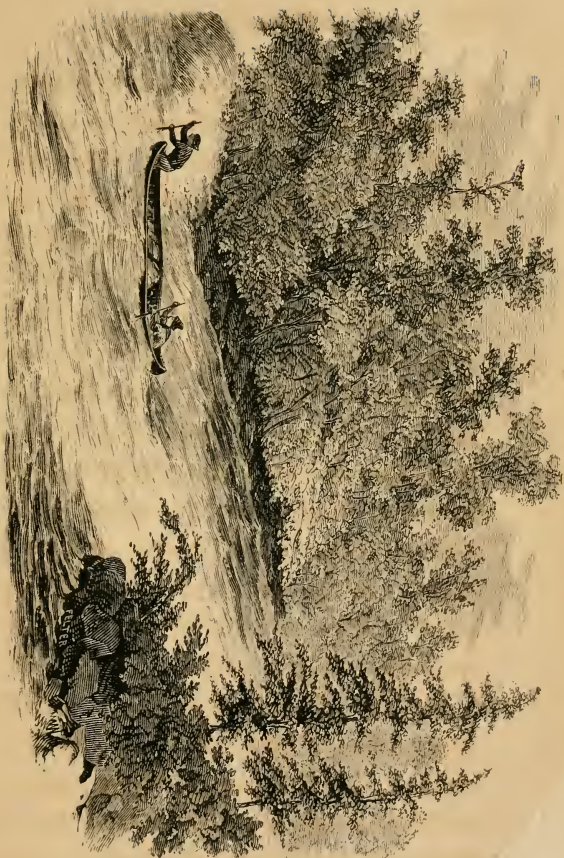
In the winter season the people, both whites and Indians, traveled almost exclusively on snow-shoes, sometimes accompanied by a dog-train to carry their bedding and provision. But often they carried everything on their back. When night overtook them on their long marches they generally cleared away the snow with a cedar snow-shovel, laid down branches of hemlock, balsam, or cedar, for a couch. Before this they built a large fire, where, after providing their supper, and chopping wood for the night, they slept wrapped up in a single blanket. Occa-

sionally a white man was fortunate enough to have two blankets.

In the summer season the usual way of traveling was either in open boats, propelled by oars or sails, or in canoes made of very thin pieces of cedar, and covered with birch bark. Many of these were model crafts, made with great ingenuity by the Indians. As an evidence of the use that can be made of them, Mr. Adolph once moved a distance of two hundred and fifty miles with his family, in a bark canoe, taking along his winter supplies. They were on the way twelve days and nights, lodging in a tent while on shore; and in his visits around his district Mr. Adolph traveled thousands of miles in this way.

Toward the close of Henry's stay in that country the facilities for travel-

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ing became much greater. Schooners, and propellers, and steamboats became common. He traveled by all the different modes of conveyance, and was sometimes in perils on the deep as well as on land.

I deem it unnecessary to moralize or philosophize in closing up this brief narrative. I hope my youthful readers will conclude with me that it is a great blessing to have religious parents and to receive early religious instruction. I hope they have been impressed with the importance of early piety, as related in this story. They will see also that the road to success are patience and perseverance, till difficulties are surmounted and the desired end gained.

. If the youthful reader wishes to see the various phases of mission life

in so rugged a country as that in which Henry Adolph lived and labored, he may be referred to a book published at the Methodist Book Concern in Cincinnati, entitled "Lights and Shades of Missionary Life." The scenes there described are so much like many of those through which Henry Adolph passed, that, without great care, the reader will be in danger of confounding the two stories. May we not hope that he will have sufficient discernment to perceive the lines of distinction, and to avoid any very great mistake in the matter.

And now the writer must take leave of the youthful reader, with the sincere hope that this humble effort may, with God's blessing, contribute something to promote the salvation and happiness of some of

the multitudes of children and youth who throng our Sunday schools. If this simple story should lead one soul to Christ, and place one star in the writer's crown of rejoicing in heaven, it would be an ample reward for these well-meant, though imperfect services. Dear children and youth, to most of whom the writer is a stranger, let us so live as to have a happy greeting by and by on the shore of the immortal, blood washed throng in glory.

THE END.



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